

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

July 30, 2001

Date of Deposit

Darin E. Bartholomew, Reg. No. 36,444

Name of applicant, assignee or  
Registered Representative

*DE Bartholomew*

Signature  
July 30, 2001

Date of Signature



**Our Case No. 10022/18**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s):

Como et. al.

Serial No.: .09/710,154

Filing Date: November 9, 2000

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
BUSINESS PLANNING VIA A  
COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Examiner: Not Yet Determined

Group Art Unit No.: 2161

**RECEIVED**

**AUG 06 2001**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**DECLARATION OF FACTS UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)**

I, Darin E. Bartholomew, a patent agent/attorney for Accenture LLP (which is an assignee of the above-noted application as set forth in the Assignment of Exhibit A) hereby declare the following:

- 1) On April 17, 2001, I sent a letter (Exhibit B), a copy of the above patent application, a Declaration (Exhibit C) For Patent Application, and an Assignment (Exhibit A) to John Mitchell, a listed inventor, at his Tampa, Florida address via first class mail. A copy of the letter and Declaration for Patent Application are attached hereto as Exhibit B and Exhibit C, respectively.

- 2) The letter (Exhibit B), dated April 17, 2001, asked John Mitchell to keep the above patent application confidential, to review the above patent application, and to sign the enclosed Declaration (Exhibit C) for Patent Application and Assignment (Exhibit A) by April 30, 2001.
- 3) Prior to April 30, 2001, John Mitchell's agent telephoned me to acknowledge receipt of the letter, dated April 17, 2001, and to assure me that John Mitchell would review the letter and the accompanying papers upon his return from Mexico during the first week of May, 2001.
- 4) According to records of Accenture LLP, John Mitchell ceased working for Accenture LLP prior to April 17, 2001.
- 5) Based on the above information, John Mitchell has had the opportunity to review the above application, Declaration for Patent Application (Exhibit C), and Assignment (Exhibit A) from at least May, 2001 until present, a period of approximately three months. To the best of my knowledge, John Mitchell has not executed either the declaration or the assignment as of the date of this declaration of facts.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

Declared in Chicago, Illinois this July 30, 2001.

Dated: July 30, 2001

  
Darin E. Bartholomew

BRINKS, HOFER, GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. BOX 10395  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610  
(312) 321-4200